

TRAC match – February 3, 2026 – Wayne Mauler, match director

Our first match of February appeared to be, and started out to be, just about as perfect as day as you could ask for. The skies were a light blue and cloudless, with just light, wispy breezes and temps that were nice and mild; 54° up to 70° by the end of the match, and humidity that averaged about 30%. Honestly, it looked as if everyone present would shoot a perfect score today, it was that nice. Even the scorecards indicated near perfect scores posted.....right up until the last lane of the first half....

....then some idiot hit the wind switch!

How conditions could do a 180° shift so abruptly was amazing to witness. The wind machine at Ben Avery came alive! One MOMENT it was calm and balmy, and the next was like getting hit with a bout of diarrhea. BOOM! Immediate and instantaneous. 12 mph with buffeting gusts of 19 mph that seemed to be sustained for the remainder of the match. That damned swirling effect that BASF is known for, hit us mostly head on, but also shifting back and forth by 45° from the NW to NE. We had several intense blowing dust conditions, including two “white-outs”, where dust obliterated the targets, both out of the NW, and with winds gusting to 31 mph. It sent the plastic cones flying, but also took the bucket with the extra target clamps, and sent it flying. How do I know these numbers? My shooting partner, Bill Cole, had his Kestrel out, after his turn to shoot and recorded them.

And yet, there were some amazing scores being posted. Not mine; I was being blown all over the place! There is a benefit to shooting with bucket and sticks; stability. Sitting on a bum bag in open class will move you around. I am going to have to try the hunter class position one of these days. It is supposed to be easier.....but then again, I am just a glutton for punishment...

47/48 – Carl Forrey / RAW TM1000 / Hunter PCP

45/48 – Erick Ajax / Daystate Blackwolf / Hunter PCP

44/48 – Ed Brockway / Daystate Wolverine / Hunter PCP

43/48 – Anthony Turchetta / Steyr LG110 / Hunter PCP, and tied with...

43/48 – Van Tucker / Daystate Air Ranger / Hunter PCP

42/48 – Jesse Avery / BRK Ghost / Hunter PCP

40/48 – Barry Diehl / Daystate Revere / Hunter PCP

39/48 – Wayne Mauler / Thomas Air / Hunter PCP. And tied with...

39/48 – Bill Cole / Daystate Revere / Hunter PCP

36/48 – Tony Pellegrino / AA TX200 / Hunter Piston, and tied with...

36/48 – Mark Kauffman / AA TX200 / Open Piston

27/48 – Larry Piercy / AA TX200 / Open Piston

I do have to admit that our weekly participation numbers look great, and with the practice that these guys are getting, their scores are very good.....especially that Forrey character! For those who haven't been out in a while, you don't know what you are missing.

Nothing more to report at this time, so will sign off. Next week is Anthony Turchetta as match director. Yeah, lovable Tony.....heh, heh, heh.....!

Respectfully submitted,

Mark Kauffman

Secretary, Airgunners of Arizona, Inc.

The best things in life are free....

The rest are too expensive!